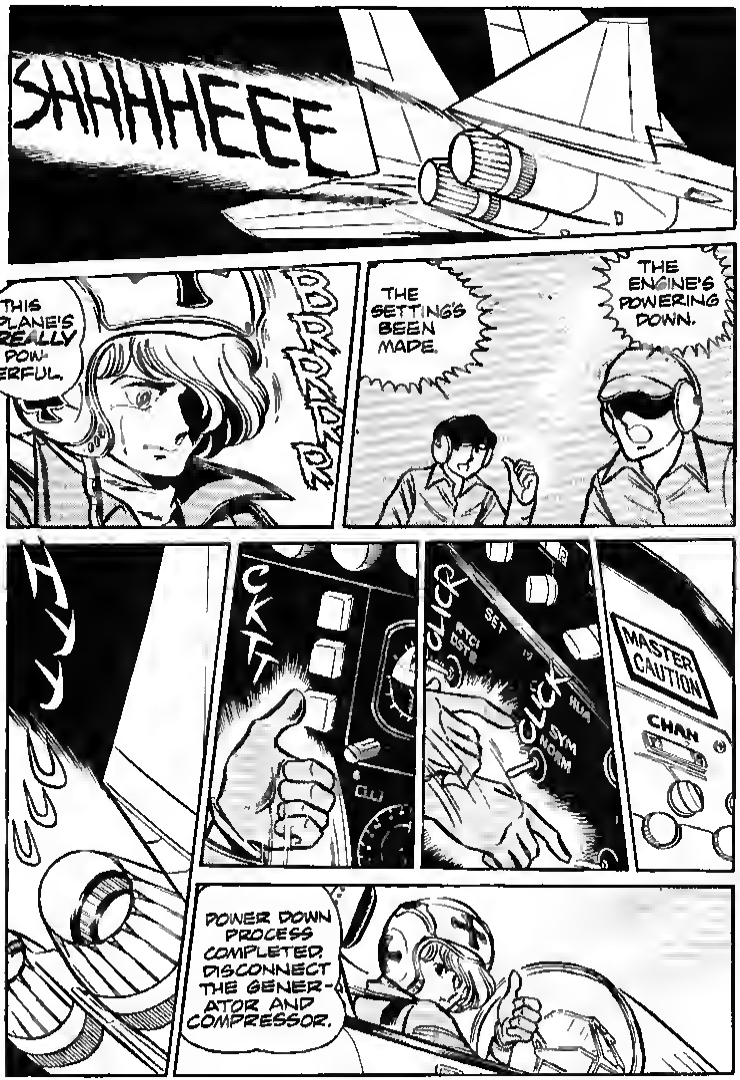
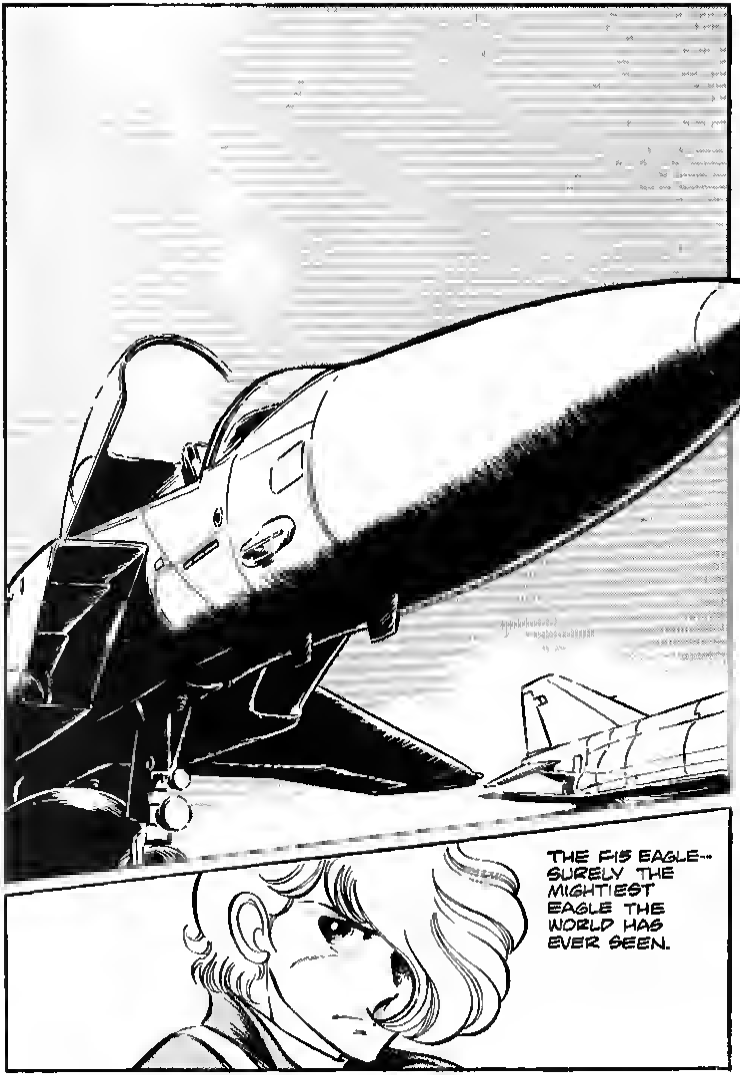
ECLIPSE INTERNATIONAL
$1.50 USA $2.25 CAN
AREA 88
by KAORU SHINTANI
BIMONTHLY
SHIN KAZAMA
Burned by the Hot Fires
Of Hatred and Revenge
4
VIZ COMICS

SCANNED BY
HIKARU

50512
CAUTION


SHHHHEEE
THIS PLANE'S REALLY POWERFUL.
DOOOOZZZ
THE SETTING'S BEEN MADE.
THE ENGINE'S POWERING DOWN.
CKT
CLICK
SET
SYM
NORM
CLICK
MASTER CAUTION
CHAN
POWER DOWN PROCESS COMPLETED. DISCONNECT THE GENERATOR AND COMPRESSOR.


THE F15 EAGLE--
SURELY THE
MIGHTIEST
EAGLE THE
WORLD HAS
EVER SEEN.

WELL, I'LL FIND OUT JUST HOW WELL THIS BIRD HANDLES IN COMBAT LATER.
WHEW... AM I TIRED !!
ISN'T THIS PLANE GREAT? WE'RE TALKIN' STATE OF THE ART KILL POWER WITH THIS BABY!
MAN, I'D CLEAN UP IN NO TIME IF I COULD FLY THIS SUCKER.
UNFORTUNATELY, THEY ONLY BOUGHT A FEW OF THEM FOR THE ASRAN REGULAR AIR FORCE.
YEAH. THAT LUCKY BASTARD SAKI'S THE ONLY GUY WHO CAN USE ONE AROUND HERE.
NOT THAT I'D LIKE TO FLY ONE...
SAKI...
DO YOU ONLY LIKE TO FLY STUFF YOU'RE USED TO, EVEN IF IT ISN'T THE LATEST?
MORRIS..
YOU CAN'T AFFORD ANY DELAYS DURING COMBAT. IF YOU DON'T HIT THE ENEMY FIRST, YOU'RE DEAD.
HA, HA... THAT'S A REAL SAKI STATEMENT.

HEY, MORRIS. NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU'RE USED TO YOUR OLD PLANE, YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO FIGHT A JET. AIN'T THAT SO?
SHUT UP, MICK!
WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE, PUTTING DOWN MY T-BIRD?!! I OUGHTA CAVE IN YOUR HEAD, BOY!!
BE COOL!
T-BIRD.. THAT'S A NORTH AMERICAN T-6 TEXAN. IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN, THE FIRST PROTOTYPE WAS FLOWN IN 1937.
MAAANNN! THAT PLANE WAS MADE BEFORE WORLD WAR II!! I CAN'T BELIEVE ANYONE COULD FLY SOMETHING THAT OLD!
REALLY, MICK. YOU SHOULD FEEL INDEBTED TO THIS OLD PLANE.
Y--YEAH...

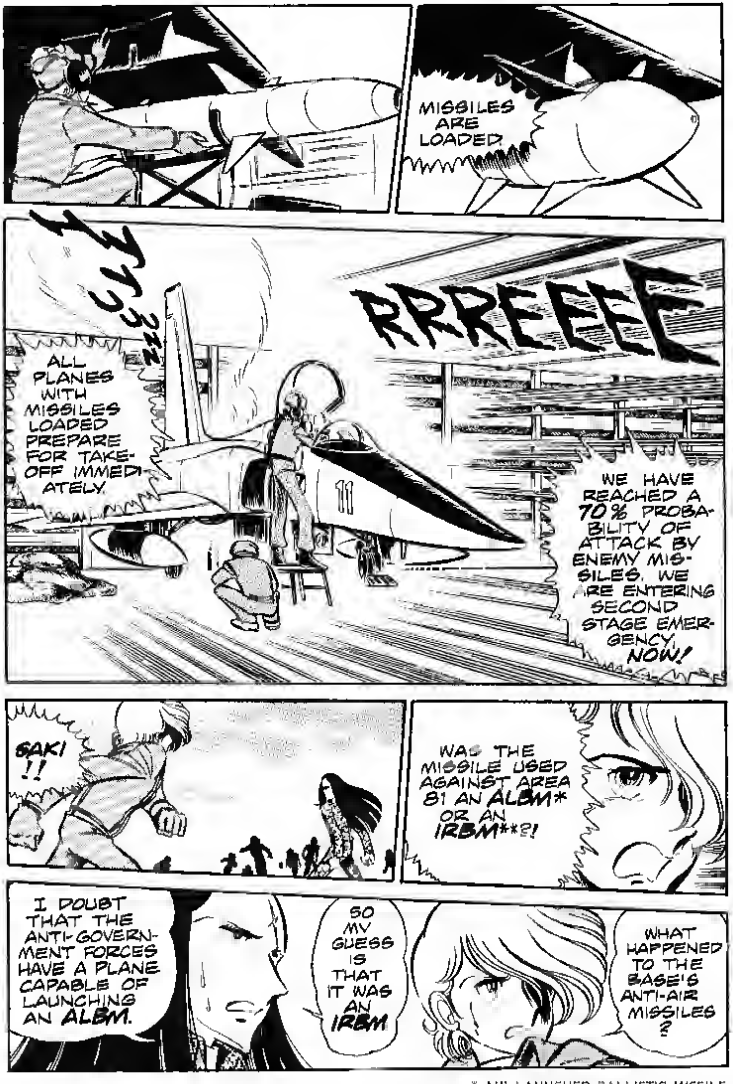
THIS IS REALLY A GOOD OLD PLANE. I ALMOST FEEL LIKE IT TAUGHT ME THE ABCS OF FLYING.
IT'S A STRAIGHT-FORWARD MACHINE.
BUT ONCE YOU GET USED TO JETS, YOU CAN'T BE SATISFIED WITH ITS POWER ANYMORE.
EVEN SO... IT'S LIKE A MOTHER.
!
?
IT'S A MOTHER WHO TEACHES YOU HOW TO WALK FIRST, TEACHES YOU ABOUT LIFE...
BUT THEN, WHEN YOU GET OLDER, YOU LEAVE HER FOR THE OUTSIDE WORLD.
THIS T-BIRD IS LIKE THAT IT TEACHES YOU NOT ONLY HOW TO FLY, BUT ALSO ALL THE JOYS AND PAINS OF FLYING...
AND SOMETHING ABOUT THE HEART OF FLYING— THE SPIRIT OF THE AIR-- YOU KNOW, ALL SORTS OF FEELINGS LIKE THAT
AND I THINK THIS PLANE, WHICH HAS TAUGHT HER CHILDREN TO FLY, WOULD WANT THEM TO FLY FASTER AND FARTHER THAN BEFORE.
THAT'S THE NATURE OF THIS OLD T-BIRD, YOU SEE...

MICK...
SO DON'T FLY THIS STUPID PLANE-- IT'S A PIECE OF TRASH! GET YOURSELF A JET, MORRIS.
SHUT UP !!
I LOVE THIS AIRPLANE, DAMMIT!
BAT!
MORRIS HAS AN EXCELLENT RECORD WHEN IT COMES TO ANTI-TANK ATTACKS.
IN THIS MONTH, SO FAR, HE HAS THE BEST RATIO OF TANK KILLS IN AREA 88. NO ONE COMES CLOSE.
BY THE WAY, MICK-- YOU'RE THIRD TO THE LAST IN THE GAME FIELD.
YEAH, BUT I'M IN THIRD PLACE WHEN IT COMES TO SHOOTING DOWN ENEMY AIRCRAFT, AFTER YOU AND SHIN.
ACTUALLY, SINCE I LOST MY PLANE LAST WEEK, YOU'RE SECOND.
SHIN, I DON'T MIND LENDING YOU MY T-BIRD.
NO, THAT'S OKAY. I DON'T THINK I COULD HANDLE IT AS WELL AS YOU, MORRIS.

BUT, MORRIS, IF YOU CONTINUE TO USE THIS OLD AIRCRAFT, YOU WILL BE SHOT DOWN SOONER OR LATER.
I SUGGEST YOU SWITCH TO A JET WHILE YOU'RE STILL ALIVE. I KNOW YOU HAVE ENOUGH MONEY TO BUY ONE.
BY THE WAY, SHIN, MCCOY IS BRINGING IN YOUR NEW PLANE TOMORROW.
HAH! FIRST HE PRAISES YOU, THEN HE CUTS YOU DOWN. HE'S A REGULAR MYSTERY MAN.
BUT WHAT SAKI SAID IS TRUE, MORRIS.
I KNOW THAT, SHIN...
BUT... I CAN'T HANDLE A JET PLANE.
THESE DAYS THERE ARE TOO MANY DIALS AND METERS TO FIGURE OUT. TOO MANY ELECTRONIC GADGETS AND CONTRAPTIONS. I'M JUST TOO OLD TO LEARN ALL THAT NEW STUFF NOW. I THINK ONE MORE LIGHT ON THE PANEL WOULD JUST CONFUSE ME.
SO I'M GOING TO KEEP USING MY T-BIRD 'TIL THE DAY I DIE.

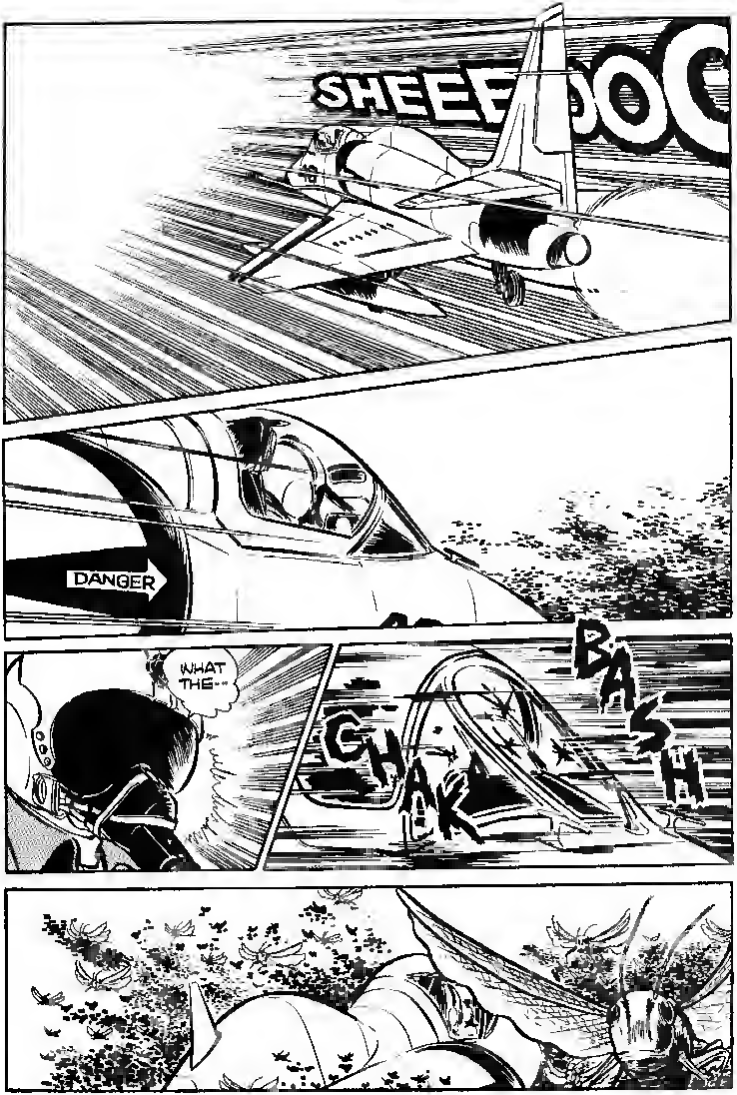
WH-WHAT THE HELL?! IT'S A MUSHROOM CLOUD!!
IT'S OVER IN THE DIRECTION OF AREA 81
GOOOH
GOOOH

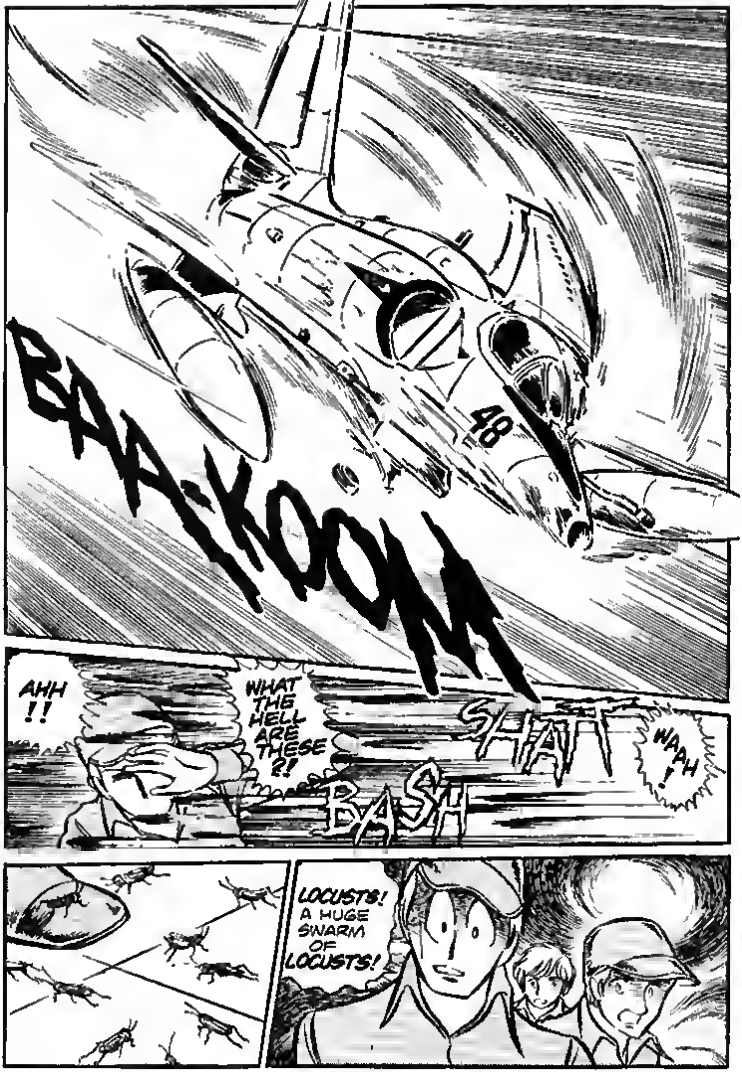
ALERT !! ALERT !!
THIS IS AN ALERT !!
COMBATANTS WHO CAN MAKE A SORTIE, STAND-BY IMMEDIATELY.
THIS IS NOT AN EXERCISE!! ANTI-GOVERNMENT FORCES HAVE USED A NUCLEAR MISSILE!
AREA 81 HAS DISAPPEARED !!
REPEAT, AREA 81 HAS DISAPPEARED !!
WH-WHAT ?!
HURRY UP!!
THEY'LL FIRE ON US NEXT !!
GROUND CREW, PREPARE EACH PLANE IMMEDIATELY WITH AIR-TO-AIR MISSILES FOR ANTI-MISSILE COMBAT.
SHIT!
LET'S GO!
RUN!

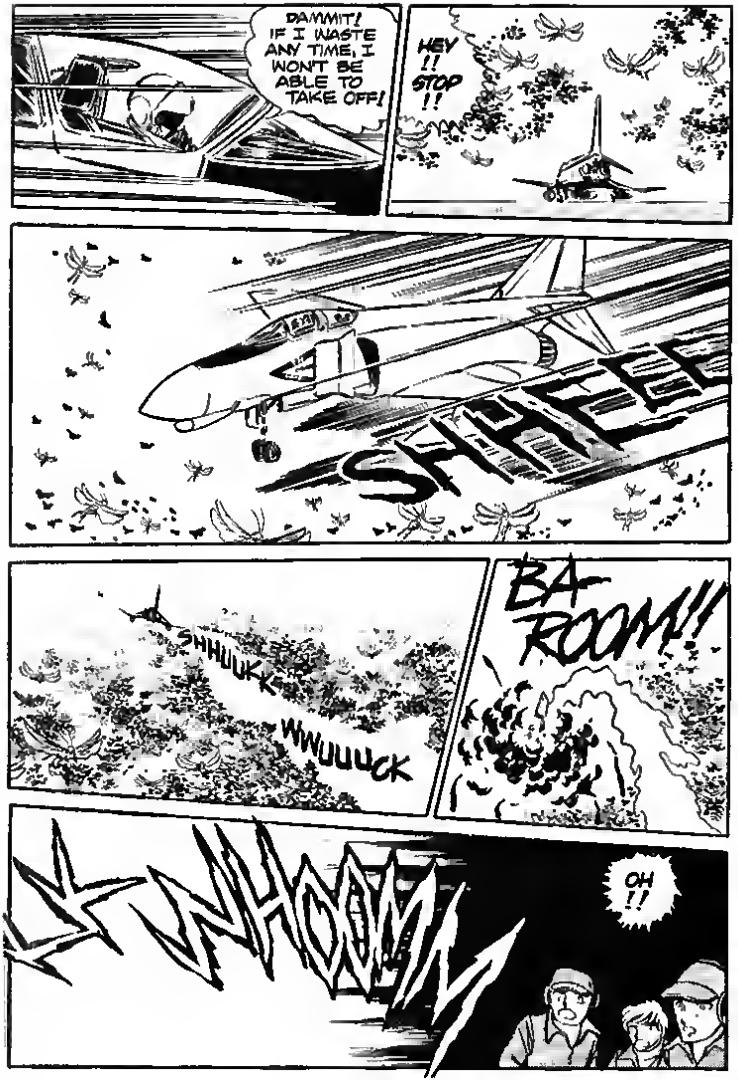

MISSILES ARE LOADED.
RRREEE
ALL PLANES WITH MISSILES LOADED PREPARE FOR TAKE-OFF IMMEDIATELY.
WE HAVE REACHED A 70% PROBABILITY OF ATTACK BY ENEMY MISSILES. WE ARE ENTERING SECOND STAGE EMERGENCY. NOW!
SAKI !!
WAS THE MISSILE USED AGAINST AREA 8! AN ALBM* OR AN IRBM**?!
I DOUBT THAT THE ANTI-GOVERNMENT FORCES HAVE A PLANE CAPABLE OF LAUNCHING AN ALBM.
SO MY GUESS IS THAT IT WAS AN IRBM
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE BASE'S ANTI-AIR MISSILES?

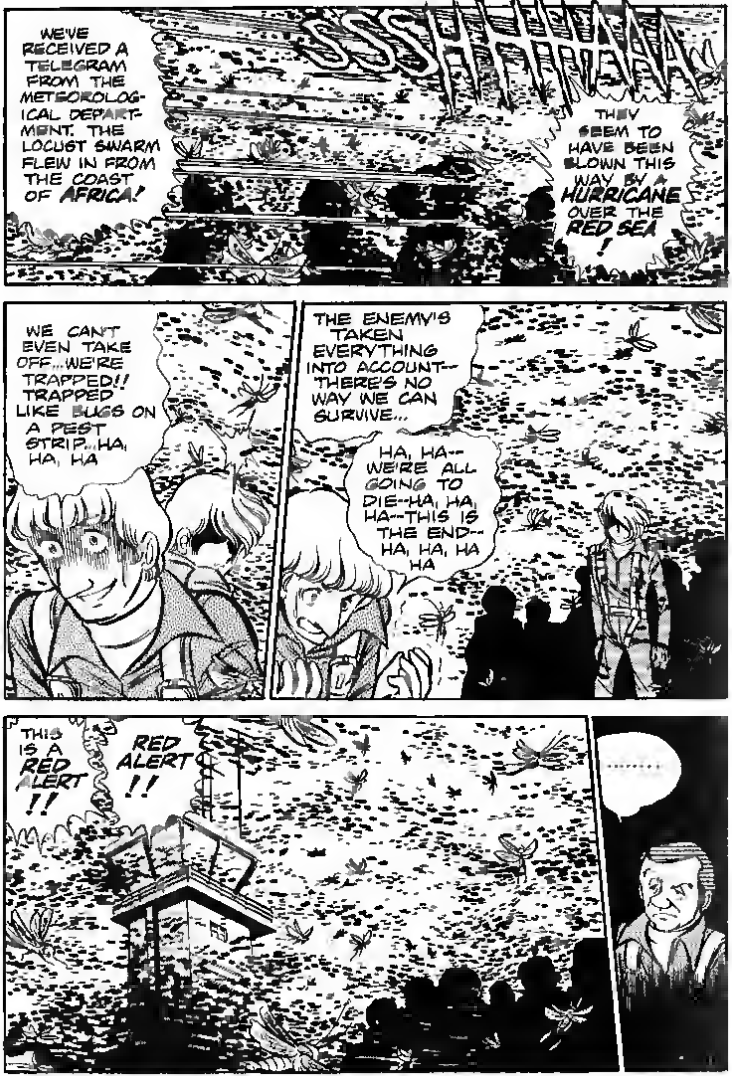
* AIR LAUNCHED BALLISTIC MISSILE
** INTERMEDIATE RANGE BALLISTIC MISSILE

OUR RADAR IS COMPLETELY OUT OF USE. THEY MIGHT BE JAMMING IT SOMEHOW.
ALL COMBATANTS! THE POSSIBILITY OF ATTACK BY A NUCLEAR MISSILE HAS RISEN BEYOND 90%!! WE HAVE ENTERED A FIRST STAGE ALERT!
ALL NON-COMBATANTS ARE ADVISED TO TAKE IMMEDIATE UNDERGROUND SHELTER!
ALL PILOTS WITH AIRCRAFT WHICH CANNOT BE EQUIPPED WITH MISSILES ARE TO TAKE REFUGE IN THE SKY. REPEAT! THIS IS A FIRST STAGE ALERT!
SORRY, SHIN, BUT I'VE GOT TO GO AND TRY TO SHOOT DOWN THAT MISSILE.
THAT'S OKAY. DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, MICK.
I KNOW THAT IF THE BASE GETS HIT BY A NUCLEAR MISSILE, I'VE GOT NO CHANCE OF SURVIVAL. THE SHELTER'S ONLY 65 FEET UNDERGROUND. THAT'S NOTHING IF THERE'S A DIRECT HIT.
GO!

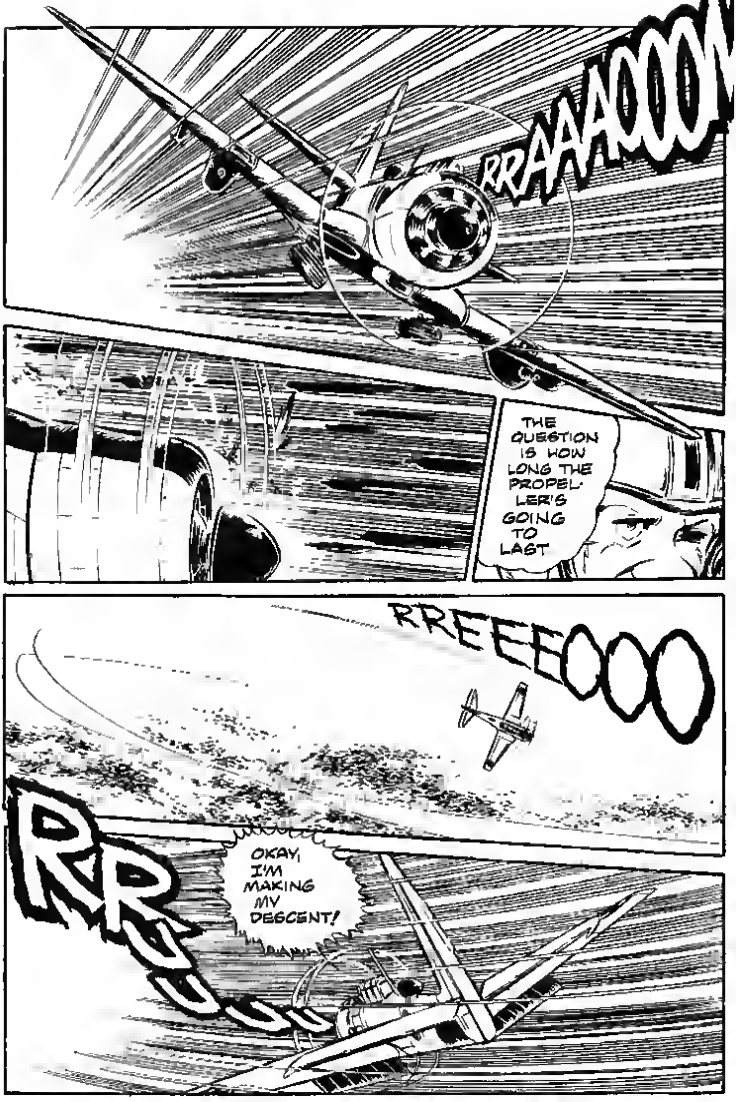

SHEEE
DANGER
WHAT THE--
CHAK
BASH


BA-KOOM
48
AHH !!
WHAT THE HELL ARE THESE ?!
SHAT
WAAH !
BASH
LOCUSTS! A HUGE SWARM OF LOCUSTS!


DAMMIT! IF I WASTE ANY TIME, I WON'T BE ABLE TO TAKE OFF!
HEY !! STOP !!
SHHEEE
SHHUUUKK
WWUUUCK
BA-ROOM!!
OH !!


WE'VE RECEIVED A TELEGRAM FROM THE METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT. THE LOCUST SWARM FLEW IN FROM THE COAST OF AFRICA!
SSSHHHAAA
THEY SEEM TO HAVE BEEN BLOWN THIS WAY BY A HURRICANE OVER THE RED SEA!
WE CAN'T EVEN TAKE OFF...WE'RE TRAPPED!! TRAPPED LIKE BUGS ON A PEST STRIP...HA, HA, HA
THE ENEMY'S TAKEN EVERYTHING INTO ACCOUNT--THERE'S NO WAY WE CAN SURVIVE...
HA, HA--WE'RE ALL GOING TO DIE--HA, HA, HA--THIS IS THE END--HA, HA, HA HA
THIS IS A RED ALERT!!
RED ALERT!!
.....

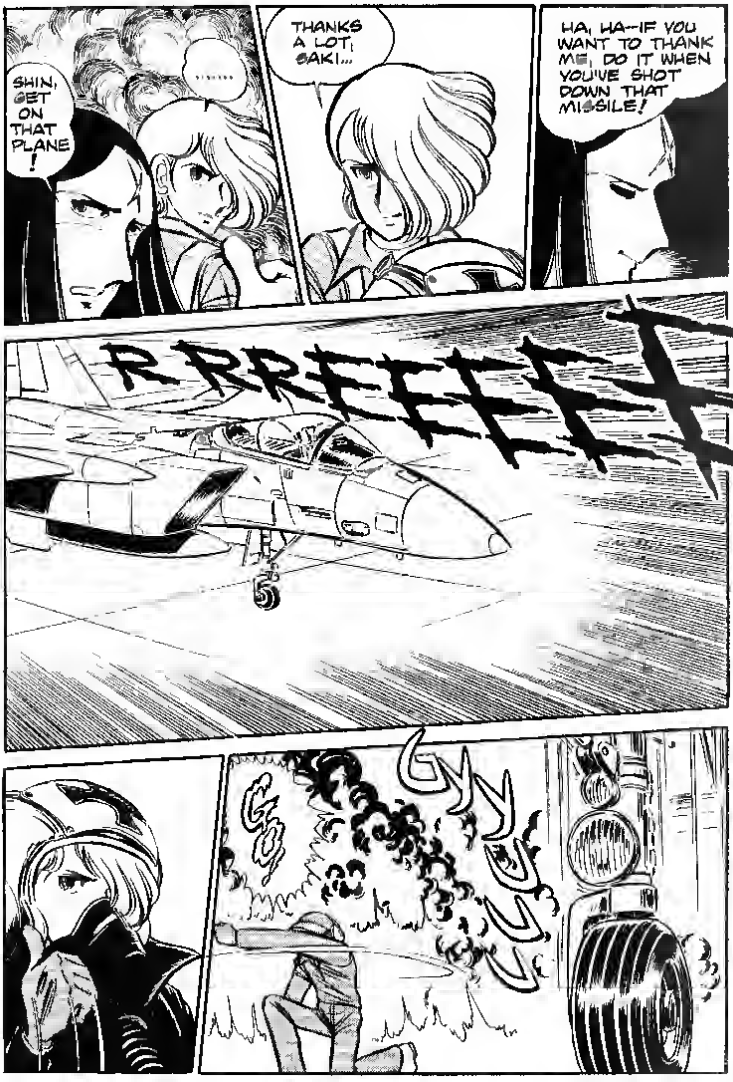
HURRY UP!! I'M GOING TO TAKE OFF!
MORRIS, DON'T DO IT!! YOU'LL CRASH TOO!
DON'T WORRY! I HAVE AN IDEA!
MY T-6 DOESN'T HAVE A LARGE AIR-INTAKE LIKE A JET.
NOT ONLY THAT, I HAVE A SPECIAL DESERT AIR FILTER OVER THE CARBURETOR.
BR RR T
BRRRRT
RRRUUUMMM
I'M GOING TO CLEAR THE RUNWAY NOW! WATCH WHAT HAPPENS!
RRRRUUUUUMMM


RRAAAOOOM
THE QUESTION IS HOW LONG THE PROPELLER'S GOING TO LAST
RREEEOOO
OKAY, I'M MAKING MY DESCENT!
RRRR

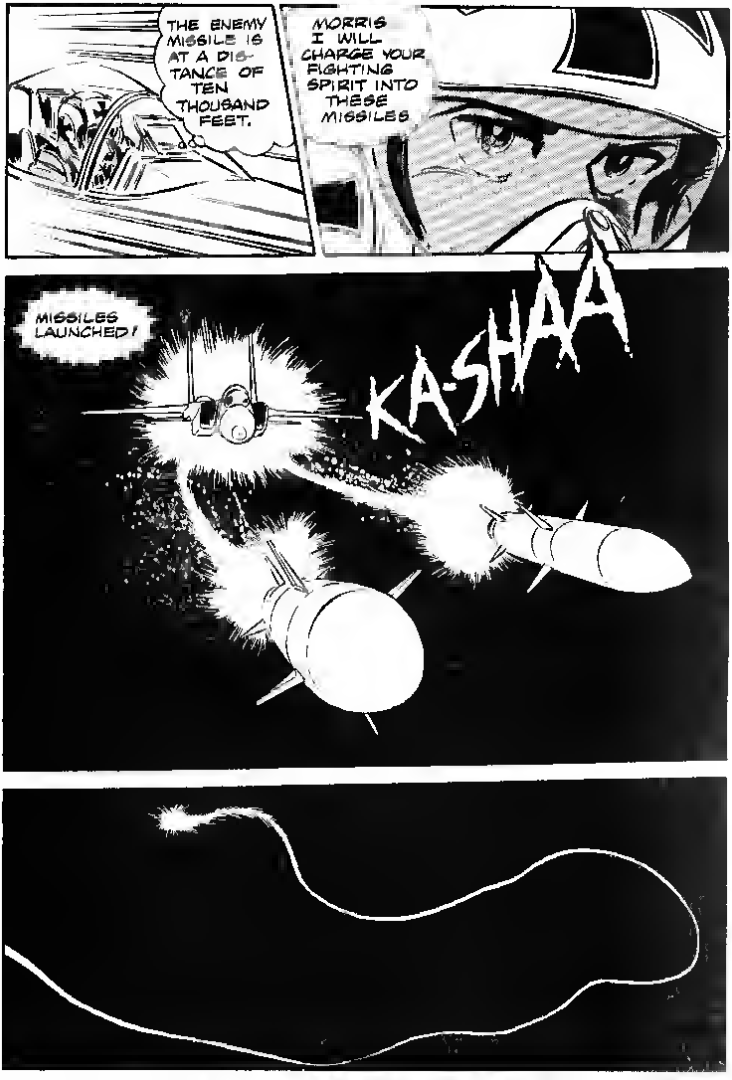
SHHOOOSH
OH!
HE'S SPREADING GASOLINE!
BUUURRAAA
OH, GOD, PLEASE MAKE IT WORK. EVERYONE'S LIFE DEPENDS ON IT.
BUDDA BUDDA
BUDDA

POW
POW
BOOSH
BURRUUP
BURRUPP
MORRIS !!
YEE AAH !!
BA-
DOO

HE DID IT! THE RUNWAY IS CLEAR!
START THE ENGINE!!
GO!
44

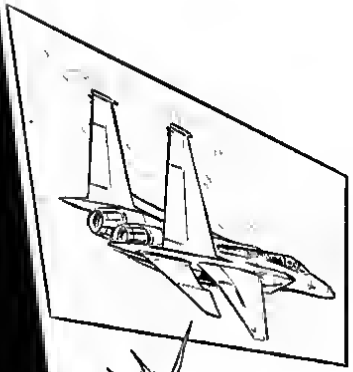

SHIN, GET ON THAT PLANE!
.....
THANKS A LOT, SAKI...
HA, HA--IF YOU WANT TO THANK ME, DO IT WHEN YOU'VE SHOT DOWN THAT MISSILE!
RRREEEEE
GO
GRRRR

SSSHHEEE
AIR-TO-AIR RANGE, ON!
MASTER ARM
A/G
FREQ
MAN


THE ENEMY MISSILE IS AT A DISTANCE OF TEN THOUSAND FEET.
MORRIS I WILL CHARGE YOUR FIGHTING SPIRIT INTO THESE MISSILES
MISSILES LAUNCHED!
KA-SHAA

IN ANY ERA, IN ANY TIME, THE NEWEST THINGS ARE NOT ALWAYS THE BEST THINGS..

ON THIS MEMORABLE DAY, AREA 88 WAS SAVED BY THE T-BIRD... THE MOTHER THAT OPENED THE WAY FOR HER CHILDREN... WITH FIRE.



THE MISSILE HAS BEEN DESTROYED. THE EMERGENCY'S OVER!

ROGER !!